REMARKS

Original claims 1-29 remain in the application. New claims 30-41 have been added.

The indication that claims 12-29 are allowable is appreciatively noted.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agrawal et al. (WO 00/59123, "Agrawal") in view of Easton (U.S. Pat. No. 5,764,687, "Easton"). It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is obviated in view of the amendments made.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "an accumulator for accumulating at least one result into a symbol, the symbol corresponding to a number of samples equal to a spreading factor," as well as "a scheduler… to produce symbols." These amendments clarify that the finger front end accumulates a received signal to produce symbols, each symbol having a spreading factor. In contrast, Agrawal discloses a searcher, whose function is to accumulate a received signal over a time window to identify the presence of energy peaks. The searcher in Agrawal does not produce the "symbols" as recited by claim 1. This is because the accumulation in Agrawal is done over a time window chosen to identify the presence of energy peaks, while amended claim 1 specifies that the accumulation in the finger front end corresponds to a "spreading factor" number of samples. Thus Agrawal lacks the accumulator recited by amended claim 1.

While the other cited reference, Easton, does disclose accumulators 110 and 112 in Fig 3 for accumulating over a symbol corresponding to a "spreading factor" number of samples, Easton does not disclose time-sharing these accumulators as further recited by claim 1. (Claim 1: "a scheduler for controlling the shift register, the parallel sum calculator, and the accumulator such that they are time-shared") Rather, in Fig 6, Easton discloses time-sharing a different accumulator, ie, a multiply-and-accumulate datapath 300 external to the finger front end. The shared datapath 300 in Easton operates on the symbol-rate outputs of the finger front ends 158a, 158b, 158c. (Easton: col. 15-16, lines 52-28; Easton: Fig 6) As the time-shared accumulator recited by amended claim 1 is for accumulating at least one pre-symbol-rate result into a symbol, it is distinguishable from the time-shared symbol-rate accumulator of Easton.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that Agrawal and Easton do not render the invention claimed in amended claim 1 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). As claims 2 and 5-11 have been similarly amended, and newly added claims 30-41 are dependent on

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either amended claim 1 or amended claim 2, these claims are also allowable for at least the reasons cited above.

For the above reasons, all the claims are believed to be distinguishable over the art of record. The Examiner's reconsideration of this application with a view toward issuance is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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